

Midterm exam details

The exam will consist of short answer, multiple choice, fill in the blank, and true/false questions over films and readings. And it will include inclass essays on films screened in class as part of the exam.

The inclass films will be:

Gunvor Nelson, *My Name is Oona*

Stan Brakhage, *Thigh Line Lyre Triangular*

Each film will be shown twice. It is always possible that due to shipping difficulties other films may be substituted.

The Brakhage film is discussed in Sitney's *Visionary Film*, so you should prepare for the exam by reading/re-reading that part of the book, and since it is a birth film, you may also want to reread Sitney's discussion of *Window Water Baby Moving*, and see that film again on the Brakhage DVD.

You should also read an article on Brakhage by Paul Arthur on the Criterion website:

http://www.criterionco.com/asp//in_focus_essay.asp?id=13&eid=310

The Arthur essay is "Qualities of Light: Stan Brakhage and the Continuing Pursuit of Vision." He has more than one essay on Brakhage, so make sure you read the correct one.

Another reading for the exam is by Fred Camper:

<http://www.fredcamper.com/Film/AvantGardeDefinition.html>

As I mentioned in class, Camper and I have a friendly disagreement about defining experimental film, so you should examine his definition in relation to my lectures and films I chose for the class.

For general background, Fred Camper has a large website which includes lots of materials about avant garde film, and it is probably the best single place for discussions of Brakhage:

<http://www.fredcamper.com/Film/BrakhageL.html>

Grad students should read this article as well:

<http://www.ejumpcut.org/archive/onlinessays/JC06folder/AvantGdeReading.html>

Reading and thinking about the avant-garde

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